

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Training Program

(Indiana Department of Commerce - IDOC)

The Indiana Department of Commerce (IDOC) has allocated \$2 million of its federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to the Skills 2016 program. These federal funds administered by the department will be used to pay eligible costs of training persons of low- and moderate-income (LMI) families. Trainees must be Indiana residents.

- Eligible Entities
 - Applicants/grantees of CDBG-funded training projects must be units of local government (counties, cities and incorporated towns). Grantees may then pass funds to private companies in good standing with the State of Indiana.
 - CDBG-financed training projects may also be implemented by nonprofit corporations on behalf of a group of businesses.
 - State CDBG funds cannot be awarded to the nineteen (19) HUD "entitlement" communities in Indiana (18 larger cities and all of Lake County). These entitlement areas receive CDBG funding directly from HUD annually and state CDBG funds cannot be allocated for projects that benefit residents of these areas. A list of entitlement communities is available from IDOC.
 - CDBG funds are restricted to the costs of training only low- and moderate-income (LMI) persons/employees.
- Financial Assistance
 - IDOC will provide funding for administrative costs of implementing a CDBG training grant. Only persons who have successfully completed the IDOC's CDBG administrator training course and have current accreditation will be eligible to assist grantees and recipient companies/nonprofit corporations in implementing/monitoring training grants funded with federal CDBG funds.
- Eligible Training Activities
 - CDBG funds will be directed principally toward training unskilled and semi-skilled persons to acquire skills necessary to enhance their advancement opportunities and income.
- Evaluation Criteria

- In order to qualify, an employee's family income must be no greater than eighty-percent (80%) of the median county income level for the county, as determined by family size. LMI income levels are fixed annually by HUD and vary by county.
- The basis for the LMI-eligibility determination for each individual to receive CDBG-funded training is the number of persons in the family unit and amount of federal "adjusted gross income" on the latest federal Form 1040 tax return..
- CDBG training grantees must pre-qualify applicants/employees in order to determine whether the training costs for these persons may be paid from federal CDBG funds.